GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2478
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES BY MES
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MES only looks after the work of buildings, maintenance and other facilities like construction of roads, sewage etc. for the three wings of the forces and the related departments;

(b) if so, whether the responsibility of the constructions of the residential buildings for the army personnel as announced on August 15, 2001 has been entrusted to MES;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the agencies alongwith the contractors on which the responsibility for construction works has been entrusted;

(e) whether the Government would have to bear additional expenditure due to the decision;

(f) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(g) the number of buildings constructed so far and the reasons for non-completion of the remaining construction work, if any?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Military Engineer Services (MES) did not have adequate capacity to take up the entire work of Married Accommodation Project.

(d) Out of 80 stations of Phase-I, work of 41 stations has been entrusted to Director General Married Accommodation Project, an organisation created out of the establishment of Engineer-in-Chief`s Branch/MES.Work has also been entrusted to Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and three Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs viz. National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC), Indian Railway Construction (IRCON) & RITES.

(e) For the work entrusted to CPWD& DRDO, no additional expenditure will be incurred.The PSUsand consultants will be paid service charge/consultancy fees. The additional expenditure on this will be offset by the cost of additional staff and other charges, which would have been required, if the work was done through the MES.

(f) Service charge @ 7% of the project cost based on lowest bid will be paid to the PSUs.

(g) No building has been constructed so far. Construction is likely to commence on ground in a few stations by March, 2004.The modalities of construction and works procedure have been finalised. At present, works in respect of 80 stations are at planning stage. The works of Phase-I are projected to be completed by 2005/2006. Other phases will be taken up later.